



"Serving Those Who Served"

Statewide Assistance: 1-800-562-2308

Home Applications: 1-877-838-7787

Central Office

Department of Veterans Affairs
1011 Plum Street, 2nd Floor
P.O. Box 41150
Olympia, WA 98504-1150
Phone: (360) 753-5586

Web Site: www.dva.wa.gov

Veterans Service Center

Department of Veterans Affairs
505 East Union, Room 150
Olympia, WA 98504-1155
Toll Free: 1-800-562-2308
Or (360) 586-1070

Agency Directors & Home Superintendents

Director John M. King

Deputy Director John E. Lee

Assistant Director of Agency Operations Lourdes E. Alvarado – Ramos

Soldiers Home and Colony Superintendent Jonathon Clontz

Veterans Home Superintendent Jerry Towne

Spokane Veterans Home Administrator Kathy Magonigle

Department History

The Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) was created in 1976 with the passage of SB 2006. Before its creation, veterans were served by the Department of Social and Health Services.

WDVA currently employs approximately 600 FTEs.

State Veterans Homes

The Washington State Constitution mandates the Legislature provide maintenance of a soldiers' home for honorably discharged veterans who are residents of the state.

Two Western Washington homes provide skilled, assisted-living and domiciliary care to qualified veterans and are Title 19 (Medicaid) certified. The average resident age is 75.

The Spokane Veterans Home serves qualified veterans in Eastern Washington, providing long-term nursing care and is Title 19 (Medicaid) certified.



The Washington Veterans Home at Retsil, near Port Orchard, is the largest of the state's veterans homes.

Established in 1910.

Total Beds: 262



The Washington Soldiers Home and Colony at Orting is located in the Puyallup Valley.

Established in 1891.

Total Beds: 183



The Spokane Veterans Home, located near medical services in Spokane, serves residents needing long-term nursing care.

Established in 2001.

Total Beds: 100

Agency Mission

"Serving Those Who Served"

- Advocating the preservation and enhancement of their rights and entitlements.
- Creating an environment that respects individual dignity and worth.
- Providing assistance in achieving a quality life.

Vision

Washington State will be a national leader in providing quality services for veterans and their families in WDVA Homes and communities.

Strategic Goals:

- Improve the quality of care and services for veterans and their families.
- Continue investing in staff, and providing the tools that result in high-quality services.
- Maximize resources to honor the nation's debt to veterans.
- Review core processes to anticipate and influence future needs.

Veterans Services

WDVA provides the following services to veterans and their families statewide:

- Advocate for veterans and family members in accessing benefits including: death pension, burial benefits, headstones and markers, dependency and indemnity compensation, home loan guarantees and educational assistance;
- Veterans Estate Management Program;
- Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Counseling;
- Homeless Veterans Outreach Program;
- Homeless Women Veterans Reintegration Project and
- Special Health Care services such as: Agent Orange exposure; Persian Gulf Illness; and Ionizing Radiation.

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Washington State Benefits

Honorably discharged veterans who served in any branch of the armed forces *may* be eligible for the following state benefits:

- Educational Benefits
- County Veterans Assistance/Burial
- Employment Preference
- Reemployment and Layoff Rights
- Military Retirement Credit
- Motor Vehicle License Plates
- Reduced Fishing/Hunting License
- State and Federal Park Passes.
- Reduced Public Transportation Fees

Statistics

Total # of U.S. Veterans **26,549,704**

WA Total # of Veterans 670,628

WA Total Male Veterans 623,015

WA Total Female Veterans 47,613

Source: US Census 2000 Veteran Data

Washington ranks 12th nationwide for the total number of veterans in the state.

Washington Veterans by Period *Veterans serving in multiple conflicts are counted only in their initial war period.*

Persian Gulf 94,170

Vietnam Era 225,276

Korean Conflict 74,247

WWII 122,174

Peacetime 154,761

Source: US Census 2000 Veteran Data.

WDVA Budget

Total Operating Budget **\$79,566,000**

State \$21,791,000

Federal & Other \$57,775,000

Budget by Program

Central Office \$3,098,260

Veterans Home \$35,926,413

Soldiers Home and Colony \$20,333,610

Spokane Veterans Home \$13,030,129

Veteran Field Services \$7,177,588

Source: WDVA 03-05 Funding Distribution

Federal Veterans Health Administration

VA Medical Centers:

Seattle VA Puget Sound Health Care System
206-762-1010 / 800-329-8387

Spokane Spokane VA Medical Center
509-434-7000 / 800-325-7940

Walla Walla Johathan M. Wainwright
Memorial VA Medical Center
509-525-5200 / 888-687-8863

Portland Portland VA Medical Center
503-220-8262 / 800-949-1004

Outpatient Clinic

Yakima Outpatient Clinic 509-966-0199

Community Based Outpatient Clinic

Bremerton Outpatient Clinic 360-782-0129

Longview Outpatient Clinic 360-636-7822

Richland Outpatient Clinic 509-946-1020

UW Physicians Shoreline Clinic 206-542-5656

Vet Center

Bellingham Vet Center 360-733-9226

Seattle Vet Center 206-553-2706

Spokane Vet Center 509-444-8387

Tacoma Vet Center 253-565-7038

Yakima Vet Center 509-457-2736

Updated Oct. 2003